--- "Series of 1881" - TOBACCO - Montreal Division "M 63" - 3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886) ---

--- 28 mm. imprint "British American Bank Note Co. Montreal" **- scanned at 67% scale ---**

--- 1/2 pound - lithographed in blue ink - 238 x 20 mm - 4 mm. blue controls - inscribed *J. L. Vincent* / **Col. Inland Rev.---**

Chris Ryan reports that *J. L. Vincent* replaced *Dunbar Browne* as Collector at Montreal on May 1st 1879.

John McKay records that 146,300 *lithographed* copies of "1/2 Blue Tobacco" were 'Delivered' under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886). A portion of these were 1/2 pound lithographed "Series of 1883" strips.

Finally in the second 'TOBACCO' section of the **4th BABN Contract** John McKay reports the 'Delivery' of 1,000 *lithographed* copies of "1/2 lb. Blue Ribbon Tobacco". This second "TOBACCO" section of the **4th BABN Contract** has been reserved for *obsolete* 1881 strips, which having been declared *obsolete* were 'Delivered' by BABN to the Department in February / March 1888 for disposal.

3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886) -	146,300 - a portion only
4th BABN Contract - 2nd section -	1,000

The final 'upper-limit' control number on the one-half pound blue "Canada Customs" strips - as collected to date

RP-347 - 1/2 pound, Division Open - A 63	**020004**
RP-370 - 1/2 pound, Montreal Division - M 63	**020006**
	40,010

The Lee Brandom catalogue lists the 1/2 pound, blue, Montreal Division "M 63" CUSTOMS strip as follows:

RP-370 - 1/2 pound, blue, perf 12, Montreal Division - M 63, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm controls

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--- RP-370 - 1/2 pound - perforated 12 - on *block watermarked* vertical mesh wove ---

RP-370 - 1/2 pound, blue, perforated 12, Montreal Division **"M 63"**, control number **001856**
Lithographed on *block watermarked* vertical mesh wove - stamped **4 '88** in August 1888

001856★	08/88	RP-370	1/2 pound, perforated 12, *block watermarked* - stamped **4 '88**
020005★		RP-370	1/2 pound, perforated 12, on *block watermarked* vertical mesh wove
020006★		RP-370	1/2 pound, perforated 12, on *block watermarked* vertical mesh wove

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The following *imperforate* strip is a remnant, probably residue from the second TOBACCO section of the **4th BABN Contract**. It has been scissor-clipped from an unfinished imperforate sheet. Since it was not a production item, I feel that it is preferable to simply list it without a separate catalogue number.

1/2 pound, blue, *imperforate*, Montreal Division **"M 63"**, without control numbering
Lithographed on *block watermarked* vertical mesh wove - badly bowed by the lithographer

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File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RP_STAMPS \ 1880-81 \ CUSTOMS \ Montreal \ 1-2 pound - M 63],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
September 10th 2013 - JBH